



Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Region 4 Headquarters

4600 Giant Springs Road

Great Falls, MT 59405

DECISION RECORD

Transfer of Westslope Cutthroat Trout from North Fork Willow Creek (Teton Drainage) to Lange Creek (Sun Drainage)

Receiving Water:

Name: Lange Creek
Location: T21N R10W Sec 11
County: Lewis and Clark County

Donating Water:

Name: North Fork Willow Creek
Location: T24N R8W Sec 8, 9
County: Teton

Fish Species Proposed for Introduction: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks proposes transferring non-hybridized juvenile and adult westslope cutthroat trout (WCT) (*Oncorhynchus clarkii lewisi*) from North Fork Willow Creek (Teton Drainage) to currently fishless Lange Creek (Sun River Drainage). North Fork Willow Creek is located on State Land and Lange Creek is located on Lewis and Clark National Forest. 150 to 300 fish will be transferred by helicopter over a two to three year period. No more than 10% of the total population of WCT ≥ 6 inches and no more than 20% of the total population of WCT < 6 inches will be transferred from North Fork Willow Creek in any one year.

Description of Public Notification/Review Process: The Environmental Assessment was put on the web (Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Public Notices Website) on 2/10/2009. The comment period ended 3/09/2009.

Summary of Public Comments: One comment was received in favor of the proposed project.

Recommendation: Transfer westslope cutthroat trout as described in the environmental assessment.

George Liberos

4/16/2009